



Georgia Secretary of State

ELECTIONS DIVISION

Voting in Georgia

**A Guide for Nursing
Home Administrators**

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Georgia Secretary of State Elections Division

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PREFACE

This guide is to be used for the administration of voter registration conducted by nursing home administrators. Local election officials responsible for elections also should find the information contained in this publication beneficial.

The guide provides an overview to voting in Georgia and the laws pertaining to voter assistance. Additional information is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ga.gov. Please use this guide along with the Georgia Election Code and the Georgia State Election Board Rules. Citations in this guide refer to the United States Code (U.S.C.), Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) or Georgia State Election Board Rules. In all matters, the law and rule are the final authority.

Note: The time period references contained in this Guide are applicable to general primaries and general elections. For information specific to municipal elections or special primaries and elections, please refer to the Georgia Election Code (Title 21) and Georgia State Election Board Rules.

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WHY ARE NURSING HOME ADMINISTRATORS RESPONSIBLE FOR ASSISTING GEORGIA VOTERS WITH THE VOTING PROCESS?

Rules of the Georgia Department of Human Resources: Public Health: Long-Term Care Facilities: Residents' Bill of Rights:

Ga. Comp. R. & Regs. 290-5-39-.04. Citizenship and Personal Choice.

(a) All residents legally eligible to vote must be permitted to vote in all primary, special and general elections and in referenda. If requested by the resident, the facility must assist in obtaining voter registration forms, applications for absentee ballots and in obtaining such ballots and assist the resident in meeting all other legal requirements in order to be able to vote. The facility shall not interfere with nor attempt to influence the actual casting of the resident's vote.

There are numerous times during the voting process that a voter may request assistance. The specific laws addressing how assistance may be provided are found in the Georgia Election Code and Rules of the State Election Board. The following is a general statement that can be used in determining whether voting assistance rules apply to a particular action.

"Assistance" with respect to registering and voting means the act of marking a voter registration application, application for absentee ballot, or ballot on behalf of another person who is unable to read the English language or has a disability which renders such person unable to see or mark the voter registration application, application for absentee ballot, or ballot or operate the voting equipment, or to enter unaccompanied the voting compartment or booth, in the manner personally requested and communicated by the person receiving assistance. No person may receive assistance in any part of the voting process unless he or she is illiterate, unable to read the English language or has a physical disability which renders such person unable to perform the required task without being assisted. A person assisting the individual with a particular voting task must be specifically identified as eligible to assist with that task and sign and/or identify himself or herself in the manner required under the Georgia Election Code.

The following instructions are to be used as a guideline for addressing common questions and situations. Please contact your County Registrar and/or Election Superintendent for answers to specific situations.

VOTER REGISTRATION

WHO IS ELEGIBLE TO REGISTER IN GEORGIA?

To register to vote in the state of Georgia, an individual must be:

- A citizen of the United States.
- A legal resident of Georgia and of the county in which the individual wishes to vote.
- At least 17 1/2 years of age to register, and 18 to vote.

An individual may not register to vote if he or she is currently:

- Serving any sentence imposed by the conviction for a felony involving moral turpitude.
- Judicially determined to be mentally incompetent.

HOW DOES A PERSON FIND OUT WHETHER HE OR SHE IS REGISTERED?

Registration status can be checked at the Secretary of State's website by supplying name, birth date, and county of residence.¹

WAYS TO REGISTER TO VOTE

Georgia residents have access to several convenient methods of registering to vote:

- Download, complete, sign, and mail a voter registration application from the Secretary of State's website.²
- Contact the county board of registrars' office,³ election office,⁴ public library, public assistance office, military recruitment office, school, and other government offices for a voter registration form.
- Registration is offered during application for or renewal of a driver's license or state identification card at any Department of Driver Services Customer Service Center.

¹ www.sos.ga.gov/elections

² www.sos.ga.gov/elections/voter_registration/voter_reg_app.htm

³ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp

⁴ www.sos.ga.gov/cgi-bin/countyelectionofficesindex.asp

COMPLETING A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

An individual may register to vote at any time, but a person must make and return an application by the close of business on the fifth Monday prior to the date of a primary or general election in order to be eligible to vote in that primary or election.

Mail voter registration applications are considered to have been made as of the date of the postmark affixed to such application by the U.S. Postal Service. If there is no such postmark affixed, the application is deemed to have been made timely if it is received through the U.S. Mail by the Secretary of State no later than the close of business on the fourth Friday prior to the election.

An individual registering for the first time in Georgia, by mail, is required to provide ID in one of the following ways:

1. Mail a copy of the identification with the voter registration application
2. Provide a copy of the identification to the registrar before or at the time a ballot is cast.

A copy of the following types of identification is acceptable to include with a first-time voter registration application sent in by mail:

- Valid Georgia driver's license
- Valid photo ID card issued by any entity of the State of Georgia, any other state, or the United States
- Valid U.S. passport
- A government employee photo ID
- Valid U.S. military ID card with photo
- Valid Tribal ID with photo
- Current utility bill
- Bank statement
- Government check
- Paycheck
- Other government document that shows your name and address

CHANGE OF RESIDENCE

Voters are required to notify the board of registrars of their county of residence whenever they move. Voters who move within the same county in which they are registered to vote and don't notify the registrar at least 30 days prior to an election, may vote in their old polling place for that election only; however, a notice of the new address must be completed. This can be done simply by writing to the county board of registrars,⁵ or by submitting a new voter registration application⁶.

Voters who, within 30 days of an election, move outside the county in which they are registered to vote may vote in their old precinct for that election only.

⁵ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp

⁶ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/voter_registration/voter_reg_app.htm

Those voters, who move outside the county in which they are registered to vote more than 30 days prior to an election, lose their eligibility to vote in the county of their old residence. In this instance, voters must register to vote in their new county of residence. A new voting precinct and polling location will be assigned. Remember, a person must be registered to vote by the registration deadline, or that person cannot vote in that particular election.

HOW TO ASSIST A RESIDENT IN APPLYING TO REGISTER TO VOTE

ASSISTING A RESIDENT WITH COMPLETION OF A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

Only those persons who are illiterate or disabled are able receive assistance with filling in or completing the voter registration application. The person helping an illiterate or disabled individual is required to sign the voter registration application on the assistance signature line. The person applying to register to vote must sign in the signature space, even if it is with an “X” or some other mark, because that shows that the person is swearing or affirming that the statements contained in the application are true and correct.

WARNING: Any person who registers to vote knowing that he or she does not possess the qualifications to vote, who registers under any name other than his or her own name, or who knowingly gives false information in registering shall be guilty of a felony.

ASSISTING A RESIDENT WITH SUBMITTAL OF A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

No person may accept a completed registration application from an applicant unless the application has been sealed by the applicant.

No copies of the completed registration application may be made without the applicant's permission.

Transit time must be kept to a minimum. Registration applications must be mailed or delivered to the county registrar as soon as reasonably practicable, but, in any event, not later than 10 days after the date the applicant signs the application. Remember, in order to be eligible to vote in an election, applications must be returned by the close of business on the fifth Monday prior to the date of a primary or general election.

VOTING OPTIONS

VOTING IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY

Where does a person vote?

On Election Day, the voter must vote at an assigned polling place. Any voter may check the location of his or her polling place at the Secretary of State's website.⁷

What should a person bring to the polling location?

Georgia law requires Georgia residents to show photo identification when voting in person.

What forms of identification are acceptable?

- Any valid state or federal government issued photo ID, including a free Voter Identification Card issued by each county board of registrars⁸ or the Georgia Department of Driver Services.⁹
- A Georgia Driver's License, even if expired
- Valid employee photo ID from any branch, department, agency, or entity of the U.S. Government, Georgia, or any county, municipality, board, authority, or other entity of this State
- Valid U.S. passport
- Valid U.S. military photo ID
- Valid tribal photo ID

First-time registered voters who register to vote by mail may also show one of the following acceptable forms of identification:

- Current utility bill showing name and address*
- Valid government check or paycheck showing name and address*
- Valid government document showing name and address*
- Current bank statement*

⁷ www.sos.ga.gov/elections

⁸ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp

⁹ www.dds.ga.gov

* **Please note:** The above identification marked with an asterisk (*) may only be used one time by the first-time registered voter. (Bank statements are kept private and are not available for public inspection.) Voting in person after that requires photo identification.

If a voter does not have one of the six acceptable forms of photo ID, the State of Georgia makes available a free Voter Identification Card. An identification card can be issued at any county board of registrars' office¹⁰ or Department of Driver Services' customer service center¹¹ free of charge. Application must be made in person.

In all elections, Voters at least 75 years of age or disabled, who arrive at the polling place between 9:30 am and 4:30 pm, will not be required to wait in line. These voters should tell a poll officer if they want to move to the front of the line.

If a voter is unable to sign his or her name at the time of registration or, if having been able to sign his or her name when registered, he or she subsequently shall have become, through physical disability, unable to sign his or her name when he or she applies to vote, he or she shall establish his or her identity to the satisfaction of the poll officers; and in such case he or she shall not be required to sign a voter's certificate, but a certificate shall be prepared for him or her by a poll officer.

VOTING ABSENTEE IN PERSON PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY

No excuses or reasons are needed to vote absentee in person in Georgia. Voters may cast their ballots beginning at least 45 days before Election Day at their county's early voting site(s),¹² by filling out the absentee ballot application and presenting one of the permitted forms of photo ID¹³.

There is no in-person absentee voting held on the day before Election Day.

Voters who are at least 75 years of age or disabled are not required to wait in line at early voting sites. These voters may request to move to the front of the line by informing a poll officer.

VOTING ABSENTEE BY MAIL PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY

No excuses or reasons are needed to vote by mail in Georgia. Voters may request a ballot by mail beginning 180 days before an election. Just fill out the Absentee Ballot Application.¹⁴

¹⁰ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp

¹¹ www.dds.ga.gov

¹² www.sos.ga.gov/cgi-bin/AdvanceVoting.asp

¹³ www.sos.ga.gov/GAPhotoID/default.htm

¹⁴ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/absentee.htm

The Absentee Ballot Application can then be faxed, mailed, or dropped off at the county board of registrars' office.

Once the board of registrars determines that the person applying for an absentee ballot is eligible to vote in the election, beginning at least 45 days prior to the election, the registrars will mail an official ballot to the applicant.

The voter must then vote and sign the ballot and return it in the envelopes provided to the board of registrars.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT?

Any registered voter in Georgia may cast an absentee ballot either in person or by mail instead of voting in-person at his or her polling place on Election Day.

APPLYING FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

County registrars and election officials can be a valuable source for absentee voting materials and information. They can assist in answering specific questions about the absentee ballot process, and can provide information to ensure the application is correct.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS TO APPLY FOR AND RECEIVE AN ABSENTEE BALLOT BY MAIL?

- Download absentee applications from the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ga.gov/elections.
- The written request must be submitted to the registrar in the county where the person is registered to vote.
- An elector who is at least 75 years of age or physically disabled may submit a request on one application for a primary, that the election official mail to that elector all ballots for any run-off primary, election, and run-off election resulting there from. However, everyone, including elderly and physically disabled voters, must submit separate absentee applications for a presidential preference primary and all special elections.
- The absentee ballot application may be faxed or mailed to the registrar in order to receive a ballot by mail.

WHEN CAN ABSENTEE BALLOT BE REQUESTED?

Absentee ballots may be requested up to 180 days before Election Day. The last day to be issued an absentee ballot is the end of the business day on the Friday before Election Day or by the close of the advance voting poll on the Friday before Election Day, whichever is later. The request should be made early to allow enough time for the ballot to be mailed and received.

Absentee ballots are available at least 45 days before Election Day at the registrar's office in county elections and at least 21 days prior to a municipal election. In special elections, absentee ballots are made available as soon as possible; check with the registrar's office for the specific date when absentee ballots will be available.

WHAT INFORMATION MUST BE INCLUDED ON THE ABSENTEE APPLICATION?

Applications must include:

- voter's full name
- date of birth
- residential address
- party ballot (only for primary elections)
- type of election (presidential preference primary, general primary, primary runoff, municipal, municipal runoff, special, general, general runoff)
- date of election
- the name and relationship of the person requesting the ballot on behalf of another voter (if applicable)

In addition, the application must be signed and dated by the voter.

If any of the required information is omitted, the registrar will reject the application and send a notice of rejection to the voter.

HOW TO ASSIST A RESIDENT IN APPLYING FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT

WHO CAN ASSIST AN ELECTOR IN COMPLETING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION?

There are no restrictions on who may assist an elector in completing an absentee ballot application when the elector is personally signing and submitting the application.

There are restrictions on who can apply for an absentee ballot on behalf of an elector and what must be contained within the application.

The absentee ballot application must be in writing and must contain the name and relationship of the person requesting the ballot, if other than the elector.

If the elector is unable to fill out or sign his or her own application because of illiteracy or physical disability, the elector shall make his or her mark and the person filling in the rest of the application shall sign his or her own name below it as a witness.

CAN A THIRD-PARTY REQUEST AN ABSENTEE BALLOT ON BEHALF OF THE VOTER?

A third-party may request an absentee ballot on behalf of the voter in the case of an elector residing temporarily out of the county or municipality or a physically disabled elector residing within the county or municipality. The application for the elector's absentee ballot may, upon satisfactory proof of relationship, be made by the elector's mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of the age of 18 or over. Relatives applying for absentee ballots for electors must also sign an oath stating that facts in the application are true.

CAN ABSENTEE APPLICATIONS BE SUBMITTED IN BUNDLE OR BY FAX, BY MAIL, OR IN PERSON?

Yes. There are no restrictions on who may take possession of and transmit or deliver an application for an absentee ballot, or how those applications are transmitted or delivered.

Some of the important points of which you need to be aware, if you distribute absentee applications include:

1. The voter must personally sign the application.
2. Any individual who distributes absentee applications and receives completed application forms back from voters must deliver the forms to the board of registrars immediately, to allow time to have the ballot mailed to the voter.
3. Voters who use an absentee application provided by an individual or organization must attest to the truth and correctness of the content of the application and sign the application.

CAN ANY ORGANIZATION PROVIDE CAMPAIGN OR OTHER MATERIALS ALONG WITH AN ABSENTEE APPLICATION?

There are no restrictions against campaign or other materials being distributed along with absentee applications.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Absentee applications should **NOT** be returned to the Secretary of State's Office.

DO NOT FORGET: The voter must sign the absentee application.

VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

After the ballot has been received in the mail, the voter can vote the ballot and return it by mail or in-person to the county registrar's office. **The ballot should be given to the voter immediately upon receipt by the facility.**

HOW IS THE BALLOT VOTED?

Follow the instructions that your county elections official provides with the ballot. Failure to complete the ballot correctly could cause the ballot not to be counted. Please contact your county registrar with any questions.¹⁵ The voter will receive all the forms necessary for marking and returning the ballot.

WHAT IS REQUIRED WHEN COMPLETING THE ABSENTEE BALLOT?

All blanks on the oath of the elector and the back of the yellow absentee ballot oath envelope must be fully completed, signed, and returned to the registrar's office. If any of the required information is omitted, the registrar will reject the ballot and send a notice of rejection to the voter.

WHEN MUST THE VOTED BALLOT BE RETURNED?

In order to be counted, a regular ballot must be received by the board of registrars no later than the close of polls on Election Day.

The ballot can be mailed or personally delivered to the registrar on or before Election Day, but in any event the board of registrars must receive the ballot before the polls close. Ballots received after the polls close cannot be counted.

When returning the ballot by mail, the required postage must be affixed to the envelope. The United States Post Office will not deliver it without the required postage.

HOW ARE ABSENTEE BALLOTS PROCESSED?

Once the information on the oath envelope is verified, the registrar will compare the absentee ballot oath envelope to the voter registration card and absentee application to verify the voter's signature. On Election Day, the ballot and the envelope are separated. This process, including the tabulating and counting of absentee ballots, are open to the public.

Registrars can only mail absentee ballots within the county to the mailing address on file with the board of registrars. If the voter is disabled, registrars may mail an absentee ballot to an address within the county other than the permanent address on file, at the request of the voter. Alternatively, the ballot can be mailed to a temporary address outside of the county that the voter specifies. All mail-in ballots must be received by the county board of registrars no later than close of the polls on Election Day.

¹⁵ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp

HOW TO ASSIST A RESIDENT IN VOTING BY ABSENTEE BALLOT

CAN RESIDENTS OF NURSING HOME OR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, RECEIVE ASSISTANCE WITH THEIR MAIL-IN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

Only a physically disabled or illiterate voter can receive assistance in preparing his or her ballot from one of the following: any elector who is qualified to vote in the same county or municipality as the disabled or illiterate voter; an attendant care provider or a person providing attendant care; or the mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, brother, sister, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of the disabled or illiterate voter.

The person rendering assistance to the disabled or illiterate voter in preparing the ballot must sign the oath printed on the same envelope as the oath to be signed by the voter. In addition, no person may assist more than ten such voters in any election in which there is no federal candidate on the ballot. If a federal candidate appears on a ballot, a person can assist an unlimited number of voters in that election.

Georgia law prohibits anyone other than the voter from taking personal possession of, or delivering, a voted mail-in ballot. However, if a voter is physically disabled, the voted ballot may be mailed or personally delivered to the registrar by a family member or an individual residing in the household of the voter.

CAN RESIDENTS OF NURSING HOME OR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES, RECEIVE ASSISTANCE WITH VOTING IN PERSON?

Only a person who is unable to read the English language or has a disability which renders him or her unable to see or mark the ballot or operate the voting equipment, or enter the voting booth without assistance can receive assistance in voting. The individual assisting a voter with a disability must record his or her name on the disabled elector's voter certificate.

In federal elections, a voter with a disability can receive assistance from any individual EXCEPT his or her employer, representative of his or her employer, or a representative of his or her union.

In all other elections, a voter with a disability can receive assistance from any voter (EXCEPT a poll worker or poll watcher who is a resident of the precinct in which the voter requiring assistance is attempting to vote). A voter with a disability can also receive assistance from his or her mother, father, grandparent, aunt, uncle, sister, brother, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, or attendant care provider. No single person shall assist more than ten electors in any primary, election, or runoff if there is not a federal candidate on the ballot.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS ABOUT ABSENTEE VOTING

IF THE ABSENTEE BALLOT THAT WAS SENT IS LOST, CAN ANOTHER ONE BE OBTAINED?

Yes; however, the voter must sign an affidavit affirming that the original ballot was lost, destroyed, or was not received. In this instance, another ballot will be issued. A new application is not required.

CAN A VOTER VOTE BY ABSENTEE BALLOT IF THEY ARE CONFINED TO THE HOSPITAL?

A voter who is confined to a hospital on Election Day can vote an absentee ballot that is delivered by a registrar or deputy registrar. The ballot must be voted, sealed properly, and returned to the deliverer. If the voter registered to vote for the first time in Georgia by mail and has not previously provided proper identification, the voter will be allowed to vote by provisional ballot if he or she fails to provide proper identification. Once the identification and registration of the voter have been verified, the vote will be officially recorded. Please contact your county elections official to arrange absentee ballot delivery if you are in the hospital.¹⁶

DO VOTERS WHO HAVE A PHYSICAL DISABILITY OR ARE AGED 75 OR OVER HAVE TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT FOR EACH ELECTION?

If a physically disabled voter or voter 75 years of age or older makes a written request to receive an absentee ballot for the primary, primary runoff, election, and election runoff, he or she will receive ballots without having to ask again by specifically stating on the written request or absentee application the following phrase: **ALL BALLOTS.**

However, everyone, including physically disabled voters and voters 75 years of age and older, must submit separate absentee applications for a presidential preference primary and all special elections.

WHAT IF A VOTER REQUESTS AN ABSENTEE BALLOT, AND LATER CHANGES HIS OR HER MIND AND WANTS TO VOTE AT THE REGULAR POLLING PLACE?

If the ballot has been voted and returned to and received by the board of registrars, then the absentee ballot shall be deemed to have been voted. No other ballot shall be issued.

If the mail-in absentee ballot is given to the poll manager of the precinct in which the voter's name appears on the electors list, then the voter may vote a regular ballot.

If the absentee ballot has not been received, or if the absentee ballot was returned, but the registrars have not received the ballot, the absentee ballot can be cancelled by the voter by appearing in person before the registrar and making a written request to have the ballot marked "cancelled." After satisfying themselves as to the voter's identity, the registrars shall grant the request and notify the

¹⁶ www.sos.ga.gov/elections/elections/voter_information/2000_voter_info.asp

managers of the voter's precinct to permit the voter to vote in person at that precinct.

PENALTIES FOR FRAUDULENT REGISTRATION OR VOTING OR INTERFERING WITH THE VOTING PROCESS

Falsely registering under any name other than the voter's own name or knowing that the voter is not qualified to voter or giving false information on the application is a felony.

An individual who votes more than once in an election is guilty of a felony.

It is a crime to do any electioneering, or otherwise attempt to influence a voter, at the time a voter is voting an absentee ballot.

It is a crime to intimidate or use or threaten to use violence to interfere with anyone's lawful right to vote.

It is a crime to pay or offer to pay a person any amount of money or to give a person anything of value in exchange for voting for a particular person or issue. Similarly, it is against the law to pay someone not to register or vote at all.

It is a crime to violate the secrecy of the ballot, or otherwise tamper with ballots or the voting system.

APPENDIX 1 – LEGAL REFERENCES

This *Guide for Nursing Home Administrators* incorporates information from the following table of legal references:

Article II, Section I, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia

Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.)

Title 21 Elections, Chapter 2

Section	216	Qualifications of electors generally; reregistration of electors purged from list; eligibility of nonresidents who vote in presidential elections; retention of qualification for standing as elector.
	218	Cancellation of registration in former state or county; address changes and corrections.
	220	Application for registration; identification requirement; rejections for failure to provide required information or for submission of false information; aid to disabled or illiterate.
	224	Registration deadlines; restrictions on voting in primaries; official list of electors; voting procedure when portion of county changed from one county to another.
	230	Challenge of person on list of electors by other electors; procedure; hearing; right of appeal.
	380	“Absentee elector” defined; when reason for absentee ballot not required.
	381	Making application for absentee ballot; determination of eligibility by ballot clerk; furnishing of applications to colleges and universities; persons entitled to make application.
	382(2)	Additional sites as additional registrar’s office or place of registration for absentee ballots.
	384	Preparation and delivery of supplies; mailing of ballots; oath of absentee electors and persons assisting absentee electors; master list of ballots sent; challenges.
	385	Procedure for voting by absentee ballot.
	386	Safekeeping, certification, and validation of absentee ballots; rejection of ballot; delivery of ballots to manager; duties of managers; precinct captains; notification of challenged elector.
	388	Cancellation of absentee ballots of electors who are present in election precinct during primaries and elections.

- 406 Public performance of duties by officials.
- 414 Restrictions on campaign activities and public opinion polling within the vicinity of a polling place; cellular phone use prohibited; prohibition of candidates from entering certain polling places; penalty.
- 451(b) Execution of voter's certificate; procedure upon qualification of elector; elector unable to sign name; voting outside of precinct of residence; registration prerequisite to voting.
- 561 False registration.
- 567 Intimidation of electors.
- 568 Entry into voting compartment or booth while another voting; interfering with elector; inducing elector to reveal or revealing elector's vote; influencing voter while assisting.
- 570 Giving or receiving, offering to give or receive, or participating in the giving or receiving of money or gifts for registering as a voter, voting, or voting a particular candidate.
- 572 Repeat voting in the same primary or election.

Ga. Comp. R. & Regs.

- 183-1-6-.03 Rules and Regulations for Voter Registration.

APPENDIX 2 COMPLETING A VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATION

To minimize any issues with registering to vote, you must complete all required fields on the voter registration application.

When completing a voter registration application, you are required to provide your driver's license number and/or SSN (9 digit SSN is optional, but the last 4 digits of your SSN are required).

If the applicant cannot sign his or her name for whatever reason, the applicant must still make his or her mark on the signature line. (Example: "X")

Use only if already registered to vote, but an event requiring a Name Change or Change of Address has occurred.

If an applicant is illiterate or disabled and the applicant is being assisted in completing any part of the voter registration application, the person assisting must sign his or her name in the space provided.

STATE OF GEORGIA APPLICATION FOR VOTER REGISTRATION
Fill out the bottom half of this application by following these directions. Print clearly and use blue or black ink.

- LEGAL NAME.** Your full legal name including any suffix such as Sr., Jr., III, is required on this form.
- ADDRESS.** Provide residential address. This information is required.
- MAILING ADDRESS.** If mailing address is different from residential address, complete the mailing address section.
- PERSONAL INFORMATION.** A telephone number is helpful to registration officials if they have a question about your application. Gender and race are requested and are needed to comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965, but are not mandated by law.
- VOTER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.** Federal law requires you to provide your full GA Drivers License number or GA State issued ID number. If you do not have a GA Drivers License or GA ID you must provide the last 4 digits of your Social Security number. Providing your full Social Security number is optional. Your Social Security number will be kept confidential and may be used for comparison with other state agency databases for voter registration identification purposes. If you do not possess a GA Drivers License or Social Security number please check the appropriate box and a unique identifier will be provided for you.
- OATH.** Federal law requires that you answer the citizenship and age questions. Read the oath and sign your name. If you cannot complete this application unassisted because of physical disability or illiteracy, you must either sign or make your mark on the signature line, and the person assisting you MUST sign the signature space for person assisting voter.
- POLL OFFICER QUESTION.** Your willingness to be a poll worker will have no bearing on your application for registration.
- NAME/ADDRESS CHANGE.** Complete these sections to change the name or address of your current voter registration.
- MAP/DIAGRAM.** If you live in an area without house numbers and street names, please include a drawing of your location to assist us in locating your appropriate voting precinct.
- DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:** Verify that you have completed and signed the application. Enclose a copy of your ID if you are submitting this form by mail and registering for the first time in Georgia. Fold the application in half, remove the tape at the top, and press the edges together. The application is ready for you to mail (postage is prepaid) or deliver to your county voter registration office.
- You are NOT officially registered to vote until this application is approved.** You should receive a voter precinct card in the mail. If you do not receive this acknowledgement within two to four weeks after mailing this form, please contact your county voter registration office. You can find your poll location and other election information on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.state.ga.us/elections.

REQUIREMENT: If you are submitting this form by mail and you are registering for the first time in Georgia, enclose a copy of one of the following with your application: A copy of a current and valid photo ID, a copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows your name and address. Those who are entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the Uniform and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act are exempt from this requirement.

Place copy of ID in pocket Trim copy of ID to size

COUNTY PRECINCT	MUNICIPAL PRECINCT	DISTRICT COMBO	DDS APPLICATION NO.	REGISTRATION NO.	CHANGE OF ADDRESS CHANGE OF NAME OTHER
<p>1. LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE OR MAIDEN NAME SUFFIX <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. <input type="checkbox"/> Sr. <input type="checkbox"/> II <input type="checkbox"/> III <input type="checkbox"/> IV <input type="checkbox"/> V</p> <p>2. RESIDENCE ADDRESS: House No. and street name APT. NO. CITY COUNTY STATE GA. ZIP CODE</p> <p>3. MAILING ADDRESS (If different from residence address): Post-office box or route CITY STATE ZIP CODE</p> <p>4. TELEPHONE NUMBER DATE OF BIRTH: MM/DD/YYYY GENDER: Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> RACE/ETHNICITY: <input type="checkbox"/> Black <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Asian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Other</p> <p>5. VALID GA DRIVER'S LICENSE OR GA ID NO. <input type="checkbox"/> If no GA Driver's License or GA ID No., must provide last 4 digits of your Social Security Number <input type="checkbox"/> FULL SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (OPTIONAL) Last 4 Digits (Required) <input type="checkbox"/> Check if you do not have a GA Driver's License, GA ID No. or Social Security No. <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>6. I SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT: (Your answer is required under federal law) Are you a citizen of the United States of America? Check One: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Will you be 18 years of age on or before election day? Check One: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If you checked "No" in response to either of these questions, do not complete this form. I SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT: I reside at the address listed above. I am eligible to vote in Georgia. I am not serving a sentence for having been convicted of a felony involving moral turpitude. I have not been judicially declared to be mentally incompetent.</p> <p>7. Date <input type="text"/> Signature <input type="text"/> Signature of person helping illiterate or disabled voter <input type="text"/></p> <p>May we contact you about working for Election Day poll officer? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If you would like to receive additional information by email, please provide your e-mail address: <input type="text"/></p> <p>CHANGE OF NAME: If you are changing your name, list the name under which you were previously registered: Last Name <input type="text"/> Middle or Maiden Name <input type="text"/> Suffix <input type="text"/></p> <p>CHANGE OF ADDRESS: If you are changing your address or if you were previously registered to vote, list your previous address: <input type="text"/></p> <p>CITY <input type="text"/> COUNTY <input type="text"/> STATE <input type="text"/></p> <p>Military Active Duty? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/></p>					

WARNING: Any person who registers to vote knowing that such person does not possess the qualifications required by law, who registers under any name other than such person's own name, or who knowingly gives false information in registering shall be guilty of a felony.
O.C.G.A. § 21-2-561

APPENDIX 3 COMPLETING AN ABSENTEE BALLOT APPLICATION

Prior to submitting an absentee ballot application, a voter must be registered in the county in which the voter resides. To check voter registration status, go to:
<http://sos.ga.gov/elections/polllocator/PollLocator.aspx> or contact the county registrar's office.

All applicable fields must be completed to ensure that there are no delays in processing the absentee ballot request.

If the voter is 75 years of age or older or is physically disabled, that voter is allowed to check the "all ballots required by law" box. That voter will be sent an absentee ballot for all remaining elections in that election cycle, including the primary, primary runoff, general election, and general election runoff.

In order to receive assistance in completing any portion of the absentee ballot application, the voter must be disabled or illiterate.

APPLICATION FOR OFFICIAL ABSENTEE BALLOT

NOTE: You may submit your application by mail, by facsimile transmission, or in person. A disabled or illiterate voter may receive assistance.

County or Municipality: _____ Application Date: _____

PLEASE PRINT (FAILURE TO FILL OUT THIS FORM COMPLETELY WILL DELAY YOUR APPLICATION)

Name as registered: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address as registered: _____ (CITY) _____ (STATE) _____ (ZIP) _____

Mailing address on registration record: _____ (CITY) _____ (STATE) _____ (ZIP) _____

Date of Primary, Election, or Runoff: _____ If requesting ballot for primary, designate ballot type:
☐ DEMOCRATIC ☐ REPUBLICAN

PLEASE CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX: (circle one of the codes below)

☐ ABSENTEE VOTING: Please see reverse side for description of codes and circle one of the codes below:
E O P D CG EO RH PS MST MOS OSP OST NR (By Mail Only)*

☐ ADVANCE VOTING (In Person Only): Monday - Friday of the week immediately preceding the election; not required to provide a reason.

MANNER IN WHICH ABSENTEE BALLOT IS PROVIDED:

☐ Ballot to be mailed to voter.

☐ Ballot issued and voted in registrar's office.

☐ Ballot to be delivered to voter in hospital (at Registrar's discretion).

☐ Mail ballot to my temporary out-of-county address (or alternate address in the case of a physically disabled voter).

Address to mail ballot to: _____

MILITARY/PHYSICAL DISABLED/ 75 YEARS OR OLDER VOTERS:
You may choose to submit one application and receive a ballot for the Primary, Primary Runoff, Election, and Election Runoff if you meet the following criteria:

☐ A member of the Armed Forces or Merchant Marines of the United States or a spouse or dependant living outside the county or municipality in which the election is held or a civilian permanently or temporarily residing overseas; or

☐ A voter age 75 or older, or **Important:** A separate application must be made for the Presidential Preference Primary if you are

☐ A voter with a physical disability. in one of these categories.

☐ By checking this box you are stating: I meet the above criteria and I choose to receive all absentee ballots as allowed by law.

I request that the ballot be mailed to: _____

SIGNATURE OR MARK OF VOTER _____

Signature of person preparing application if voter is disabled or illiterate _____

VOTERS RESIDING TEMPORARILY OUT OF COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY OR VOTERS WITH A PHYSICAL DISABILITY RESIDING WITHIN THE COUNTY/MUNICIPALITY:
In the case of a voter residing temporarily out of the county/municipality or a physically disabled voter residing within the county/municipality, application may be made by mother, father, grandparent, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, spouse, son, daughter, niece, nephew, grandchild, son-in-law, daughter-in-law, mother-in-law, father-in-law, brother-in-law, or sister-in-law of the age of 18 or over upon completing the following oath:
I, the undersigned, do swear (or affirm) that the above named voter is:

☐ Residing temporarily out of the county/municipality.

☐ A physically disabled voter residing within the county/municipality and that the facts included within this application are true.

Signature and relationship of relative requesting ballot _____

I hereby certify that:

☐ The voter named is eligible to receive an absentee ballot

☐ The voter named is ineligible to receive an absentee ballot

Date Application Received: _____

Date Ballot Mailed: _____

Date Ballot Returned: _____

Type of Identification: _____

Signature of Registrar/Clerk: _____

Office Use Only

Voter Registration #: _____

Precinct ID: _____

District Combo#: _____

Reason for rejection: _____

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If a family member is requesting the ballot on behalf of the applicant, the family member must complete the oath and signature.